

(Aug. 20, 1912, ch. 308, § 1, 37 Stat. 315; July 31, 1947, ch. 405, 61 Stat. 680; Sept. 28, 1988, Pub. L. 100-449, title III, § 301(f)(3)(A), 102 Stat. 1869; Dec. 8, 1994, Pub. L. 103-465, title IV, § 431(d)(1), 108 Stat. 4967.)

#### AMENDMENTS

1994—Pub. L. 103-465 amended section generally, substituting present provisions for provisions outlining general restrictions on importation of nursery stock into the United States along with exceptions to such restrictions.

1988—Pub. L. 100-449 struck out “*Provided*” the first place it appeared and inserted in lieu thereof “*Provided*. That the Secretary of Agriculture may waive the permit requirement for nursery stock imported or offered for entry from Canada: *Provided further*”.

1947—Act July 31, 1947, inserted last proviso.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1994 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 103-465 effective on the date of entry into force of the WTO Agreement with respect to the United States (Jan. 1, 1995), except as otherwise provided, see section 451 of Pub. L. 103-465, set out as an Effective Date note under section 3601 of Title 19, Customs Duties.

#### EFFECTIVE AND TERMINATION DATES OF 1988 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 100-449 effective on date United States-Canada Free-Trade Agreement enters into force (Jan. 1, 1989), and to cease to have effect on date Agreement ceases to be in force, see section 501(a), (c) of Pub. L. 100-449, set out in a note under section 2112 of Title 19, Customs Duties.

#### TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

Functions of all officers, agencies, and employees of Department of Agriculture transferred, with certain exceptions, to Secretary of Agriculture by 1953 Reorg. Plan No. 2, § 1, eff. June 4, 1953, 18 F.R. 3219, 67 Stat. 633, set out as a note under section 2201 of this title.

#### CROSS REFERENCES

Plants, etc., other than nursery stock as subject to provisions of this section, see section 159 of this title.

#### SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in section 159 of this title.

### § 155. Importation for scientific purposes permitted

Any class of nursery stock or of any other class of plants, fruits, vegetables, roots, bulbs, seeds, or other plant products of which the importation may be forbidden from any country or locality under the provisions of section 160 of this title may be imported for experimental or scientific purposes by the Department of Agriculture upon such conditions and under such regulations as the said Secretary of Agriculture may prescribe.

(Mar. 4, 1913, ch. 145, § 1 [part], 37 Stat. 854.)

#### CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of the Agricultural Appropriation Act, 1914, and not as part of the “Plant Quarantine Act” which comprises this chapter.

#### TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

Functions of all officers, agencies, and employees of Department of Agriculture transferred, with certain exceptions, to Secretary of Agriculture by 1953 Reorg. Plan No. 2, § 1, eff. June 4, 1953, 18 F.R. 3219, 67 Stat. 633, set out as a note under section 2201 of this title.

### § 156. Notification of arrival at port of entry; forwarding without notification forbidden; inspection before shipment

It shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Treasury promptly to notify the Secretary of Agriculture of the arrival of any nursery stock at port of entry. The person receiving such stock at port of entry shall, immediately upon entry and before such stock is delivered for shipment or removed from the port of entry, advise the Secretary of Agriculture or, at his direction, the proper State, Territorial, or District official of the State or Territory or the District to which such nursery stock is destined, or both, as the Secretary of Agriculture may elect, of the name and address of the consignee, the nature and quantity of the stock it is proposed to ship, and the country and locality where the same was grown. No person shall ship or offer for shipment from one State or Territory or District of the United States into any other State or Territory or District, any nursery stock imported into the United States without notifying the Secretary of Agriculture or, at his direction, the proper State, Territorial, or District official of the State or Territory or District to which such nursery stock is destined, or both, as the Secretary of Agriculture may elect, immediately upon the delivery of the said stock for shipment, of the name and address of the consignee, of the nature and quantity of stock it is proposed to ship, and the country and locality where the same was grown, unless and until such imported stock has been inspected by the proper official of a State, Territory, or District of the United States. This section does not apply to nursery stock that is imported or entered from a country or a region of a country that the Secretary of Agriculture designates, pursuant to procedures set forth in such regulations as the Secretary may promulgate, as exempt from the requirements of this section.

(Aug. 20, 1912, ch. 308, § 2, 37 Stat. 316; Sept. 28, 1988, Pub. L. 100-449, title III, § 301(f)(3)(B), 102 Stat. 1869; Dec. 8, 1994, Pub. L. 103-465, title IV, § 431(d)(2), 108 Stat. 4968.)

#### AMENDMENTS

1994—Pub. L. 103-465 amended last sentence generally. Prior to amendment, last sentence read as follows: “This section shall not apply to nursery stock that arrives from, or is imported from, Canada.”

1988—Pub. L. 100-449 inserted at end “This section shall not apply to nursery stock that arrives from, or is imported from, Canada.”

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1994 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 103-465 effective on the date of entry into force of the WTO Agreement with respect to the United States (Jan. 1, 1995), except as otherwise provided, see section 451 of Pub. L. 103-465, set out as an Effective Date note under section 3601 of Title 19, Customs Duties.

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## CROSS REFERENCES

Plants, etc., other than nursery stock as subject to provisions of this section, see section 159 of this title.

## SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in section 159 of this title.

**§ 157. Marking packages, etc., for entry**

No person shall import or offer for entry into the United States any nursery stock unless the case, box, package, crate, bale, or bundle thereof shall be plainly and correctly marked to show the general nature and quantity of the contents, the country and locality where the same was grown, the name and address of the shipper, owner, or person shipping or forwarding the same, and the name and address of the consignee.

(Aug. 20, 1912, ch. 308, § 3, 37 Stat. 316.)

## CROSS REFERENCES

Plants, etc., other than nursery stock as subject to provisions of this section, see section 159 of this title.  
Prohibition against mailing packages into a state maintaining terminal inspection without marking the contents on the outside, see section 166 of this title.

## SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in section 159 of this title.

**§ 158. Marking packages, etc., for interstate shipment; inspection**

No person shall ship or deliver for shipment from one State or Territory or District of the United States into any other State or Territory or District any such imported nursery stock the case, box, package, crate, bale, or bundle whereof is not plainly marked so as to show the general nature and quantity of the contents, the name and address of the consignee, and the country and locality where such stock was grown, unless and until such imported stock has been inspected by the proper official of a State, Territory, or District of the United States.

(Aug. 20, 1912, ch. 308, § 4, 37 Stat. 316.)

## CROSS REFERENCES

Plants, etc., other than nursery stock as subject to provisions of this section, see section 159 of this title.  
Prohibition against mailing packages into a State maintaining terminal inspection without marking the contents on the outside, see section 166 of this title.

## SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in section 159 of this title.

**§ 159. Regulations by Secretary restricting importation of plants, etc., other than "nursery stock"**

Whenever the Secretary of Agriculture shall determine that the unrestricted importation of any plants, fruits, vegetables, roots, bulbs, seeds, or other plant products not included by the term "nursery stock" as defined in section 152 of this title may result in the entry into the United States or any of its Territories or Districts of injurious plant diseases or insect pests he shall promulgate his determination, specifying the class of plants and plant products the importation of which shall be restricted and the

country and locality where they are grown, and thereafter, and until such promulgation is withdrawn, such plants and plant products imported or offered for import into the United States or any of its Territories or Districts shall be subject to all the provisions of sections 154 and 156 to 158 of this title.

(Aug. 20, 1912, ch. 308, § 5, 37 Stat. 316; Jan. 8, 1983, Pub. L. 97-432, § 1(1), 96 Stat. 2276.)

## AMENDMENTS

1983—Pub. L. 97-432 struck out provision directing the Secretary to hold a hearing before promulgating a determination under this section.

**§ 160. Regulations by Secretary restricting importation from insect-infested locality; when quarantine effective**

Whenever, in order to prevent the introduction into the United States of any tree, plant, or fruit disease or of any injurious insect, new to or not theretofore widely prevalent or distributed within and throughout the United States, the Secretary of Agriculture shall determine that it is necessary to forbid the importation into the United States of any class of nursery stock or of any other class of plants, fruits, vegetables, roots, bulbs, seeds, or other plant products from a country or locality where such disease or insect infestation exists, he shall promulgate such determination, specifying the country and locality and the class of nursery stock or other class of plants, fruits, vegetables, roots, bulbs, seeds, or other plant products which, in his opinion, should be excluded. Following the promulgation of such determination by the Secretary of Agriculture, and until the withdrawal of the said promulgation by him, the importation of the class of nursery stock or of other class of plants, fruits, vegetables, roots, bulbs, seeds, or other plant products specified in the said promulgation from the country and locality therein named, regardless of the use for which the same is intended, is hereby prohibited; and until the withdrawal of the said promulgation by the Secretary of Agriculture, and notwithstanding that such class of nursery stock, or other class of plants, fruits, vegetables, roots, bulbs, seeds, or other plant products be accompanied by a certificate of inspection from the country of importation, no person shall import or offer for entry into the United States from any country or locality specified in such promulgation, any of the class of nursery stock or of other class of plants, fruits, vegetables, roots, bulbs, seeds, or other plant products named therein, regardless of the use for which the same is intended: *Provided*, That the quarantine provisions of this section, as applying to the white-pine blister rust, potato wart, and the Mediterranean fruit fly, shall become and be effective on August 20, 1912.

(Aug. 20, 1912, ch. 308, § 7, 37 Stat. 317; Jan. 8, 1983, Pub. L. 97-432, § 1(2), 96 Stat. 2276.)

## AMENDMENTS

1983—Pub. L. 97-432 struck out provision directing Secretary to hold a hearing before promulgating a determination of necessity of forbidding importation.

## EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective Oct. 1, 1912, see note set out under section 151 of this title.